

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A production scheduling management method for making a computer execute the steps of:

receiving information of customer orders and information of prospect orders and storing into a received order database;

dividing orders stored in said received order database based on a reference master having various kinds of information about production materials registered therein, and storing the information of the orders which have been subjected to the division process to a received order division database;

applying a process development to the orders which have been subjected to the division process, based on a basic unit master and storing into a process development database;

specifying an optimum production starting date based on the information of orders which have been subjected to the process development and a production pattern stored in a production pattern database, performing loading, and storing results of the loading into a production planning database; and

creating delivery date answer information, based on said optimum production starting date,

wherein said production pattern describes a sequence of production of a plurality of products, and is set in such a manner that a production scheduling is repeated periodically and that the compliance rate of delivery date of a target product becomes a maximum.

2. (Original) The production scheduling management method according to claim 1 a step of changing a production scheduling stored in said production planning database.

3. (Currently Amended) The production scheduling management method according to claim 1, for further making said computer ~~execute~~ ~~execute~~ a step of making a display means display a production scheduling stored in said production planning database and production results in a compared manner.

4. (Currently Amended) The production scheduling management method according to claim 1, wherein said production pattern is set in such a manner that a production scheduling is repeated periodically and that the compliance rate of delivery date of a target product becomes a maximum.

5. (Currently Amended) A production scheduling management ~~programming method~~
software program for making a computer execute the steps of:

receiving information of customer orders and information of prospect orders and storing
into a received order database;

dividing orders stored in said received order database based on a reference master
having various kinds of information about production materials registered therein, and storing the
information of the orders which have been subjected to the division process to a received order
division database;

applying a process development to the orders which have been subjected to the division
process, based on a basic unit master and storing into a process development database;

specifying an optimum production starting date based on the information of orders
which have been subjected to the process development and a production pattern stored in a
production pattern database, performing loading, and storing results of the pattern database,
~~performing loading, and storing results of the~~ loading into a production planning database; and

creating delivery date answer information, based on said optimum production starting date,
~~information, based on said optimum production starting date,~~

wherein said production pattern describes a sequence of production of a plurality of
products, and is set in such a manner that a production scheduling is repeated periodically and
that the compliance rate of delivery date of a target product becomes a maximum.